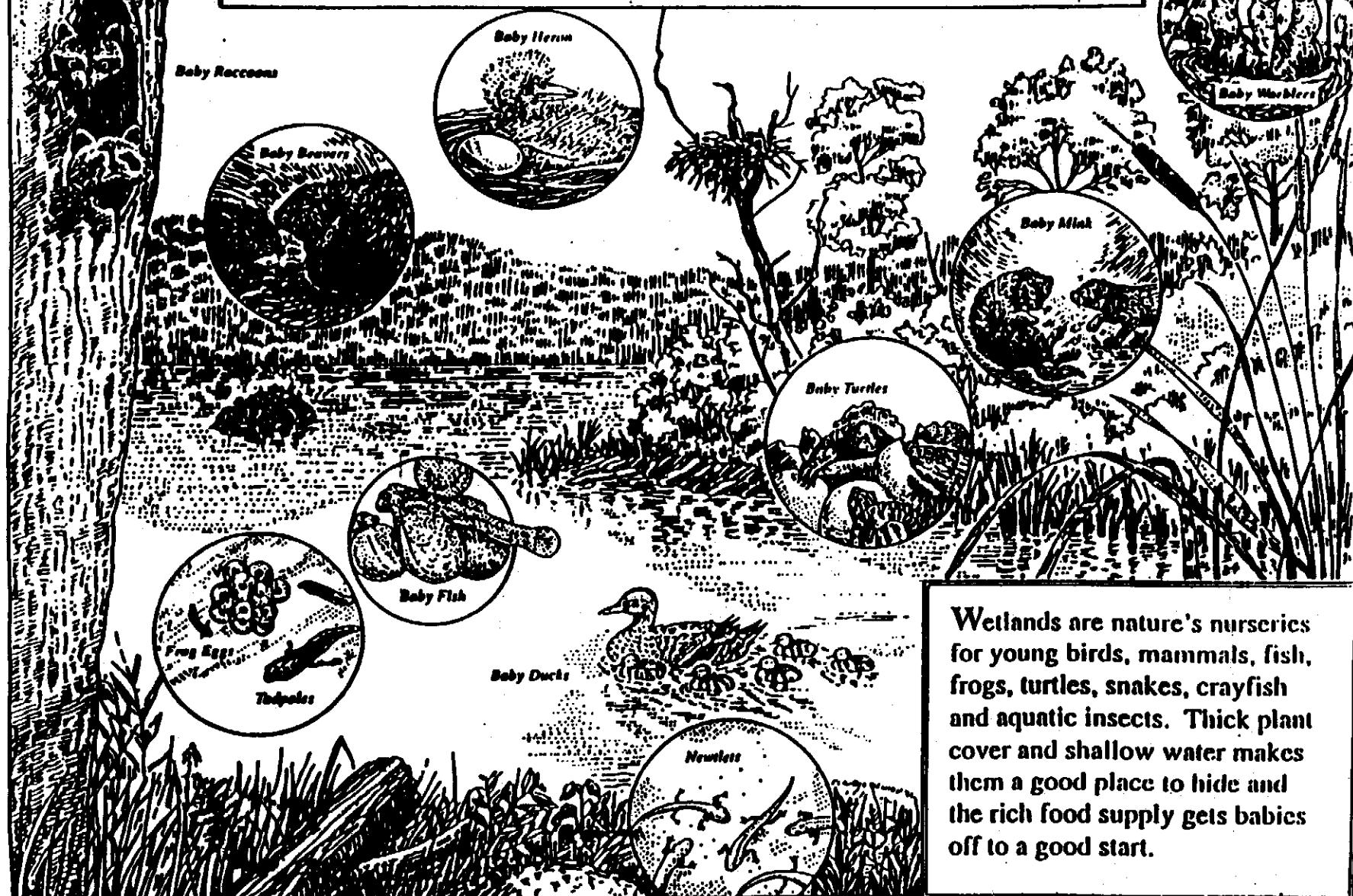


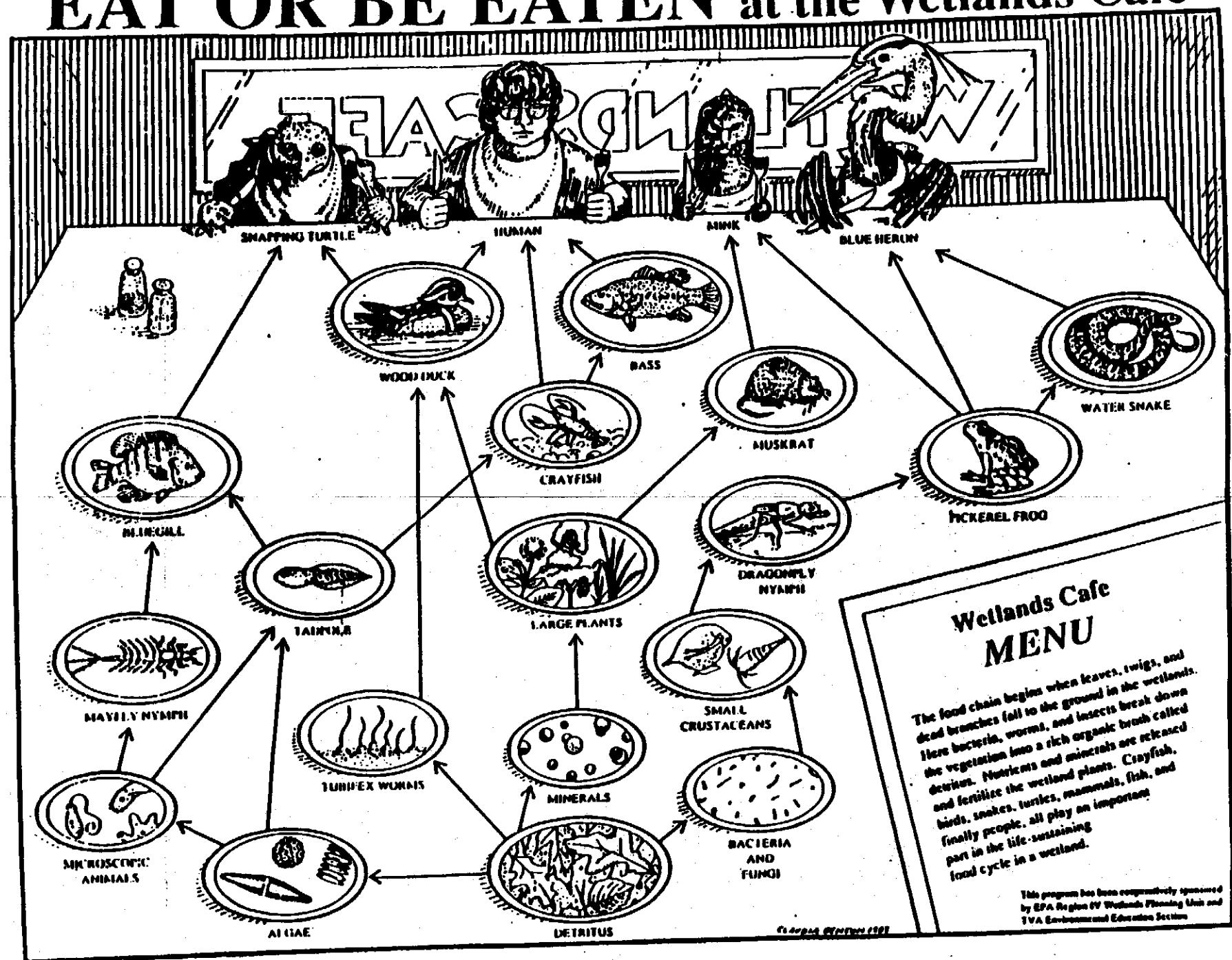
W E L C O M E

to Nature's Nursery

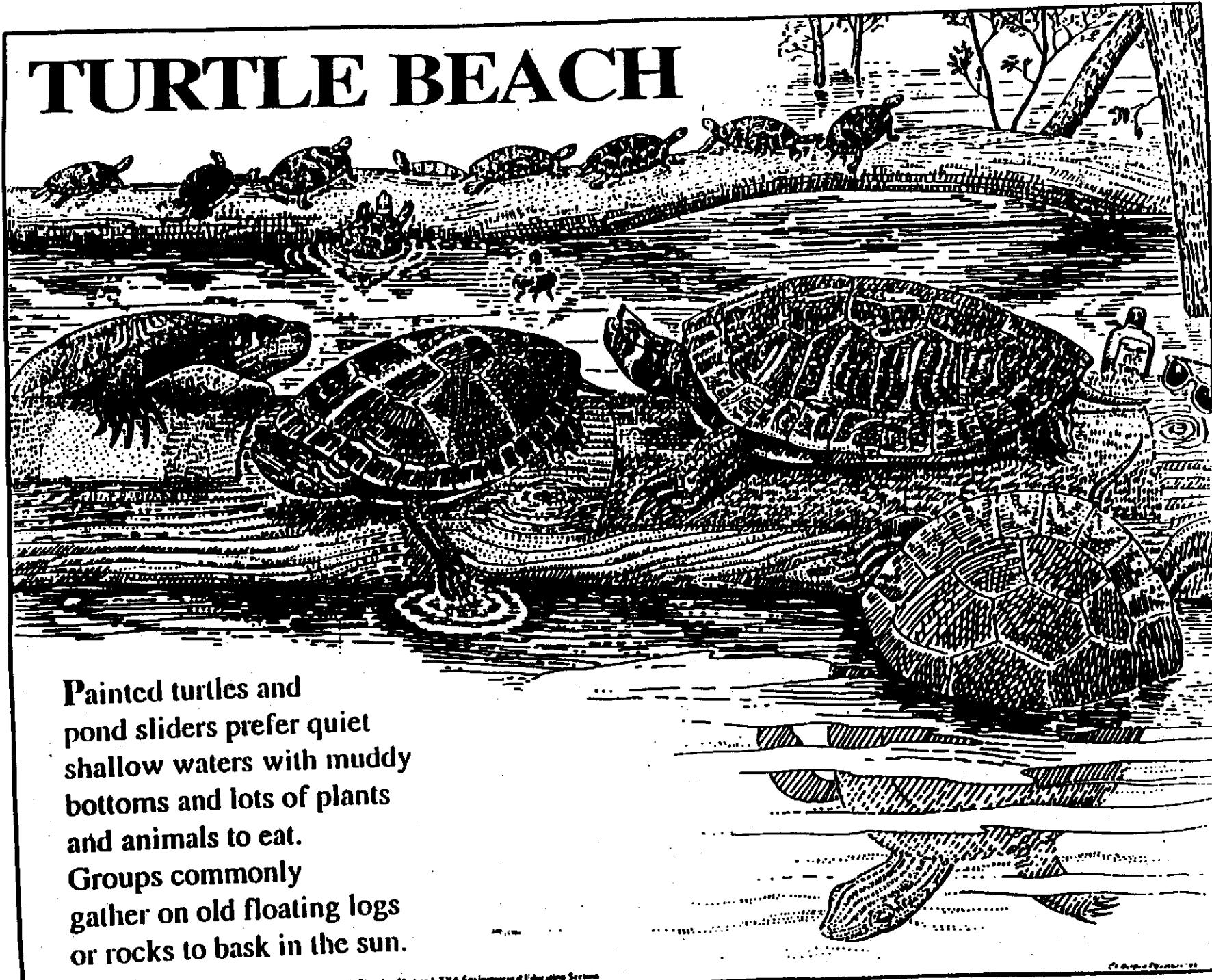


Wetlands are nature's nurseries for young birds, mammals, fish, frogs, turtles, snakes, crayfish and aquatic insects. Thick plant cover and shallow water makes them a good place to hide and the rich food supply gets babies off to a good start.

EAT OR BE EATEN at the Wetlands Cafe



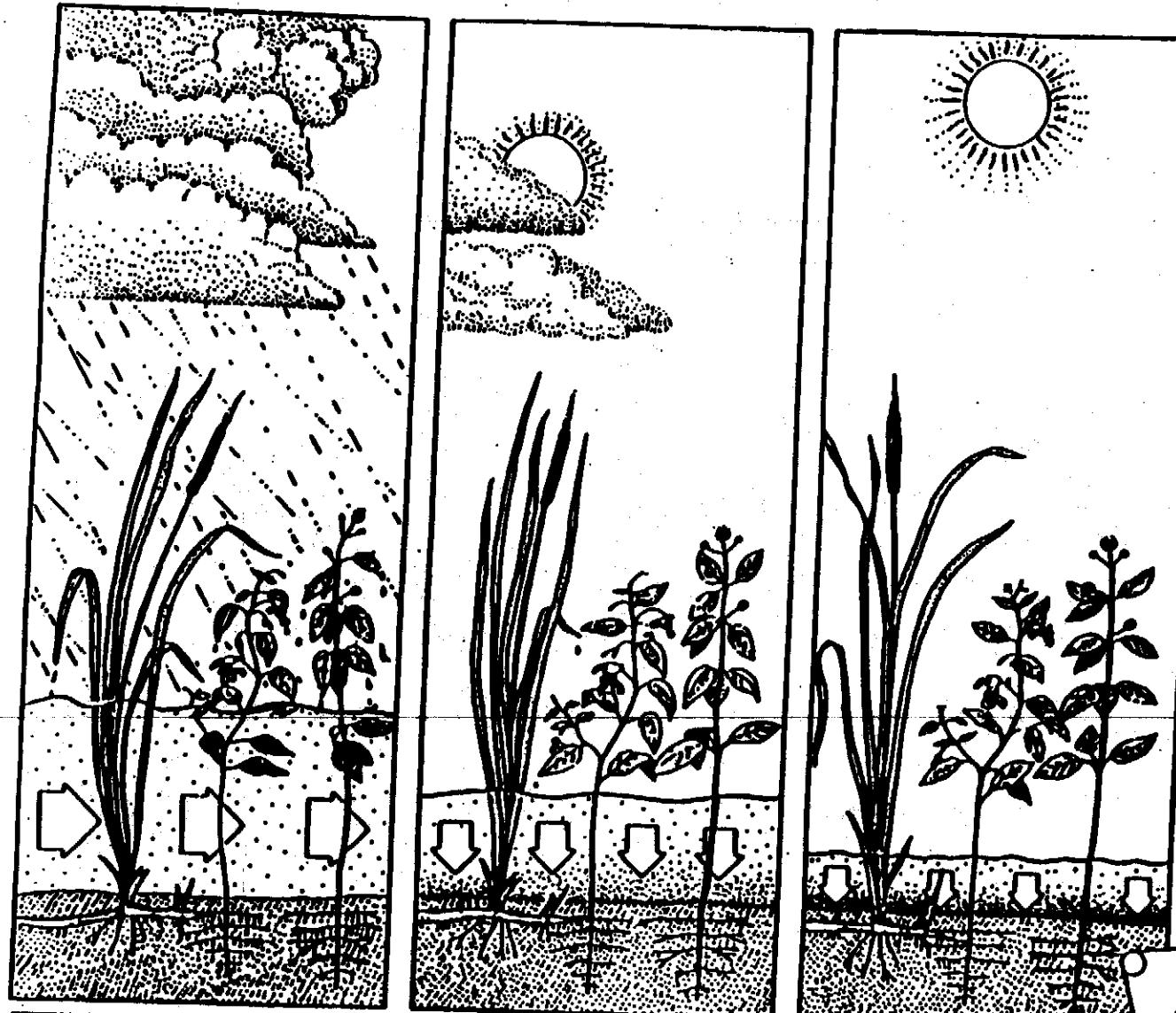
TURTLE BEACH



Painted turtles and pond sliders prefer quiet shallow waters with muddy bottoms and lots of plants and animals to eat. Groups commonly gather on old floating logs or rocks to bask in the sun.

THE DIRT STOPS HERE

Wetland plants slow incoming stormwaters causing sediment suspended in the water to settle out among the plant stems. Organisms living on the stems and roots of the plants absorb and break down pollutants.

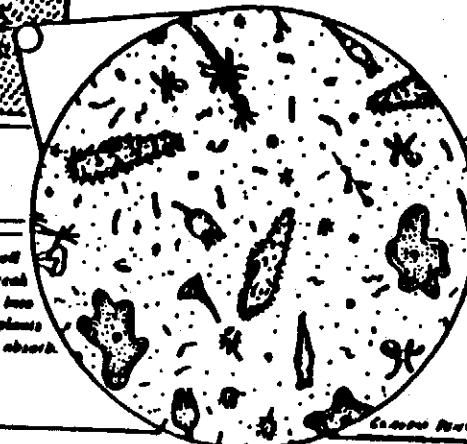


Spotted Jewelweed

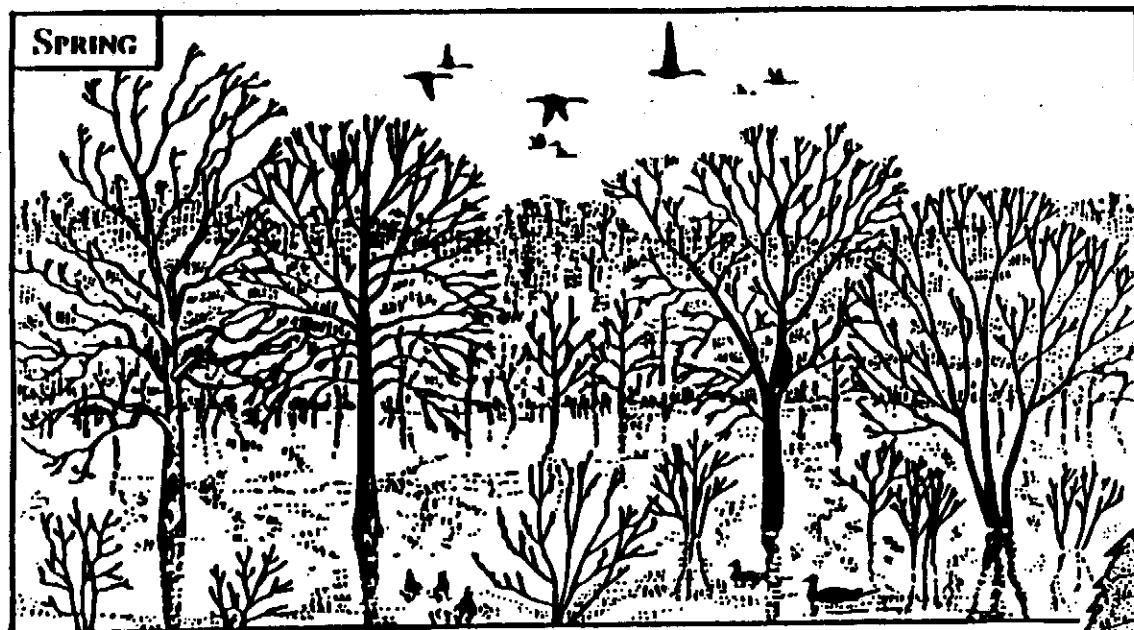
Buttombush

Stinging Nettle

Tiny organisms in the soil and on plant roots break down pollutants into chemicals the plants can absorb.



IT'S SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST



SPRING



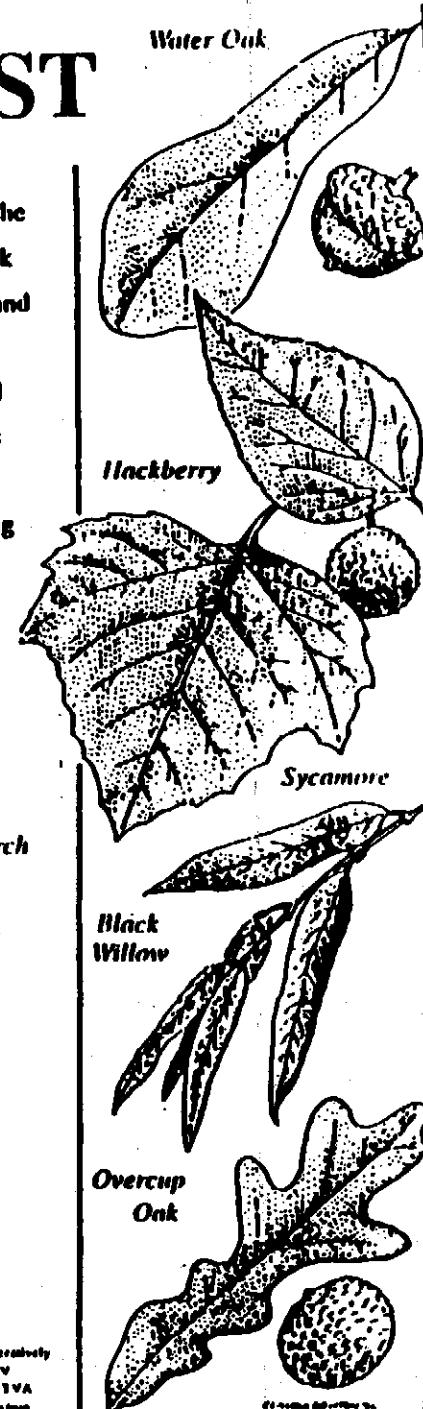
Trees such as the Sycamore, Black Willow, Water and Overcup Oaks, River Birch and Hackberry have adapted to the rising and falling water levels in the swamp.

River Birch

They survive by remaining dormant during floods in early spring and growing when soils dry out in late spring and summer.

This program has been cooperatively sponsored by EPA Region IV Wetlands Planning Unit and TVA Environmental Education Section

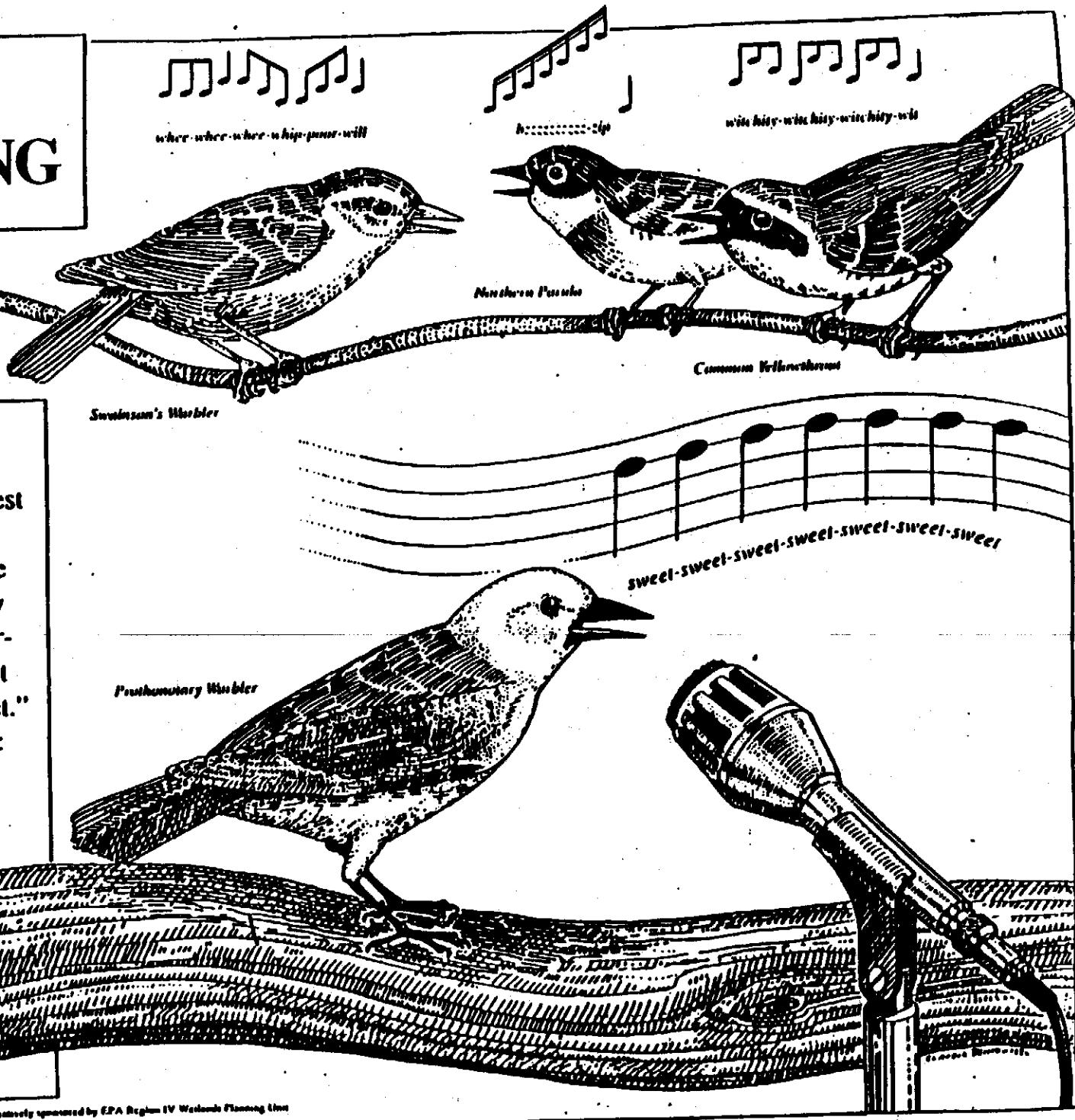
Water Oak



Easy LISTENING

**AM
&
PM**

**Songbirds brighten
the dark swamp forest
with their beautiful
songs, especially the
golden Prothonotary
Warbler. This water-
loving bird sings out
“sweet, sweet, sweet.”
Daily concert times:
6-9 am and 4-7 pm.**



Dine & Dash

Migratory birds and waterfowl routinely stop at wetland sites on route to their summer and winter homes. Here they refuel on a rich supply of insects and berries before continuing their journeys.

Many also nest and winter in wetlands.



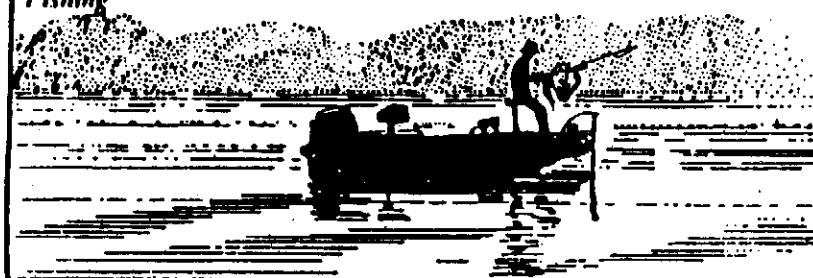
This program has been independently sponsored by EPA Region IV Wetlands Planning Team and IVA in honor of the 25th anniversary of the Clean Water Act.

from
ROOTS
to
RATHOUSES

Muskrats are seldom seen far from water. Digging their burrows or "rathouses" into the creekbank, they routinely swim nose up into the marshy edges of the swamp and feed on clams, crayfish and cattail roots.



Fishing



Hunting



Birdwatching



Canoeing



HELP SAVE OUR WETLANDS

The intermingling
of sun, land, water, and plants
creates this rich and unique
wetland habitat.
**But the single most important
influence on wetlands
is people.**

Over 115 million acres of wetlands
have been drained for agriculture,
timber production, mosquito control,
and urban development.

You can help save
the remaining wetlands
by supporting wetland
conservation efforts and by buying
duck stamps at your local post office.

This program has been cooperatively sponsored by EPA Region IV Wetlands Planning Team and FWA Extramural Research Program.